

How to Start a Property Maintenance Business (Checklist)

1. Decide whether starting a property maintenance business is for you.			
	 Familiarize yourself with the industry, if needed. Evaluate your training and experience. Consider the risks and disadvantages. 		
2.	2. Define the scope of your business.		
	☐ Think about your interests and expertise.☐ Consider whether you'd like to work alone or in a team.		
3.	Choose a business name.		
	 □ Consider your offerings. □ Discard ill-fitting names. □ See what your target market thinks of the remaining names. □ Check trademark availability. □ Secure a domain name. 		
4. Form your property maintenance business.			
	 ☐ Formulate a business plan. ☐ Choose a legal structure. ☐ Obtain an Employer Identification Number (EIN). ☐ Open a business bank account. ☐ Purchase insurance. ☐ Obtain your licenses and permits. 		
5. Outline your funding requirements.			
	 □ Calculate vehicle and related expenses. □ Consider location-related costs. □ Determine the cost of supplies. 		
6. Obtain funding.			
	☐ Ask family and friends.☐ Try crowdfunding.☐ Search for angel investors.		



	☐ Apply for an SBA and/or conventional bank loan.☐ Use a business credit card.	
7.	Select and set up your location.	
	 ☐ Find the perfect location. ☐ Purchase your equipment and tools. ☐ Observe all pertinent storage regulations. ☐ Remain guided by safety considerations. ☐ Keep your space well-organized. 	
8. Hire staff, if needed.		
	 □ Determine how many employees you need. □ Advertise your vacancies. □ Review candidates' resumes. □ Schedule interviews. □ Appoint the best candidate(s). 	
9. Market your business.		
	 □ Create and display your logo strategically. □ Create some leaflets. □ Distribute your leaflets. □ Build and maintain an updated website. □ Harness social media. □ Forge strategic partnerships. □ Use local SEO. □ Register for Google My Business. □ Create a Yelp Business Page. □ Urge clients to post reviews of your work. □ Employ additional techniques and/or appoint an agency. 	
10. Get ready to open.		
	 ☐ Take stock of your supplies. ☐ Prepare your schedule. ☐ Shop for job-specific supplies. ☐ Review directions to worksites ahead of time. ☐ Gather all the pertinent tools before seeing your first clients. 	